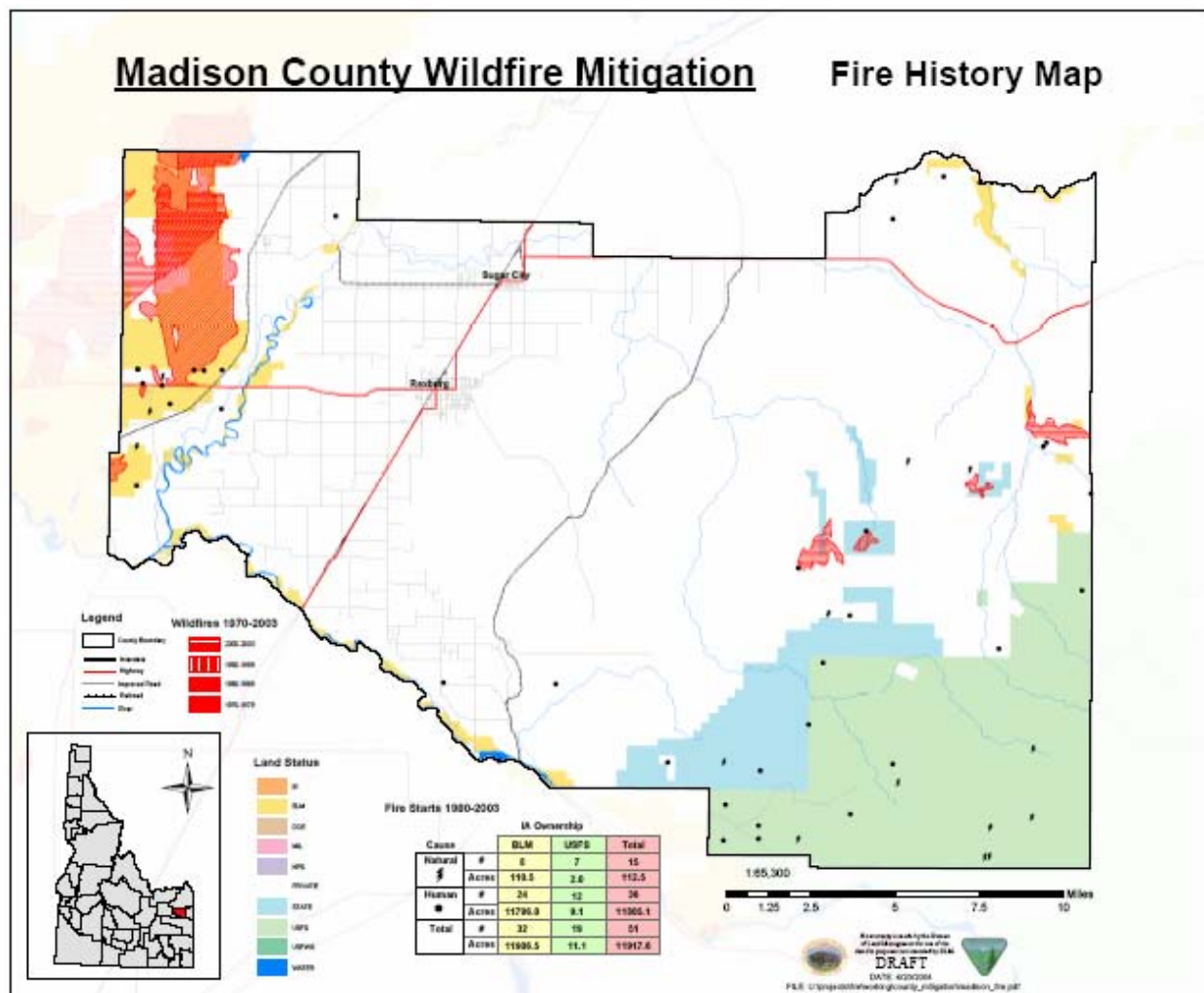


Section 2: Madison County Idaho

Madison County is in southeast Idaho within the Upper Snake River Valley. It is the fastest growing county in the fastest growing part of the state. Rexburg, the county seat has doubled in size between its 80th and 100th birthdays. Other surrounding communities include Archer, Burton, Byrne, Edmonds, Herbert, Hibbard, Hinckley, Jensen, Jolley, Lyman, Mark, Moody, Parkinson, Plano, Salem, Sugar City, Sunnyside, and Thorton, Walker. Main industries include farming, the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory under the direction of the U.S. Department of Energy, and Brigham Young University - Idaho.

Fire History:

According to the BLM and the Forest Service, between 1980 and 2003 there were 51 fire starts resulting in roughly 12,000 acres of land burned by wildfires in Madison County. Of the reported 51 fire starts 15 were naturally started, usually through lightning strikes, and 36 were started by humans. The naturally started wildfires are typically located in the high desert areas of the west of the county or on the east bench in the agricultural areas. The rural fire districts in the county do not retain records of acreage consumed in wildfires nor the number of annual responses.



Heise to North Fork of Snake River Junction

This area is located approximately 10 miles northeast of Rigby and includes the communities of Kelly Canyon, Heise, Sunnydale, Archer, Labelle, and Lorenzo. The area can be reached by traveling north on Interstate 15 and exiting onto Highway 26 east. The riparian area lies within Madison, Jefferson and Bonneville Counties along the bends of the Snake River. Elevations average 5,000 feet. BLM lands within the assessment area occur along the riparian lands of the Snake River and portions of Kelly Canyon. Agriculture, farming, rangeland and urban development are the primary uses of private lands within the Heise and Lorenzo communities.

Conservation Reserve Program Lands

The Conservation Reserve Program encourages farmers to convert highly erodible cropland or other environmentally sensitive acreage to vegetative cover, such as native grasses, wildlife plantings, trees, filterstrips, or riparian buffers. Farmers receive an annual rental payment for the term of the multi-year contract. Cost sharing is provided to establish the vegetative cover practices. Areas covered by CRP ground in Madison County total 20,135 acres.

Fire District Profiles:**Rexburg-Madison County Emergency Services**

Rexburg-Madison County Emergency Services covers municipal, district, EMS and ambulance services. The City of Rexburg is located approximately 30 miles north of Idaho Falls and is home of Brigham Young University-Idaho. Because BYU has expanded in the last couple of years, the population of the area has almost doubled. The topography of the area consists of rolling hills and farmland with small communities throughout Madison County. It encompasses recreational land with the Henry's Fork of the Snake River lying west of the city; which also splits the county. There is light forestation close to the river and sagebrush steppe and grasslands throughout the county. For additional information see Appendix 4.

Central Fire District

The Central Fire District is a combined municipal and fire protection district serving Rigby, Ririe, Menan and Lewisville in Jefferson County. These communities have experienced some growth and are located north of Idaho Falls near Highway 20. Most of the Fire District's topography is rolling hills suitable for farming and ranching. For additional information see Appendix 4.